THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected from State Government of Rajasthan.

Prevention of Blackmarketing and Maintenance of Supplies of Commodities Act, 1980

5923. SHRI V. PRADEEP DEV : Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) the number of persons detained and convicted in the country under the Prevention of Blackmarketing and Maintenance of Supplies of Commodities Act, 1980 during 1996-97, State-wise;

(b) whether this Act is quite sufficient to deal with such people and prove deterrent to them or some more drastic measures are needed; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF FOOD (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): (a) Details of detention under the Prevention of Black-marketing and Maintenance of Supplies of Essential Commodities Act, 1981 for the year 1996 and 1997 (upto 31.3.97) are given below :

State	No. of detention	
	1996	1997
Andhra Pradesh	5	2
Assam	10	6
Gujarat	55	25
Orissa	2	-
Total	72	33

(b) and (c) The existing provisions under the aforesaid Act are considered sufficient to deal with the offenders. No further measures are contemplated.

Foreign Regional Registration Office

5924. SHRI UTTAM SINGH PAWAR : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that the Foreign Regional Registration Office in Delhi has become notorious for the high level corruption prevalent there;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of officials working in that office for more than three years and the normal practice of posting;

(d) whether the Government had received any complaints about the large scale corruption prevalent in the immigration office in Indira Gandhi International Airport from the employees of FRRO during the last three years; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) and (b) There have been some complaints against individual officials working in the Foreign Regional Registration Office (FRRO) in Delhi. Such complaints are duly looked into and action as per rules is taken against the erring officials wherever the allegation is found substantiated.

(c) The number of officials working in FRRO, Delhi for more than three years is reported to be 186. Whereas the normal tenure of deputation is three years, it has not been possible becuase of several administrative difficulties to strictly enforce this requirement.

(d) and (e) During the last three years (1994-1996), 3 complaints were received from the employees of FRRO, Delhi in which allegations of malpractices by individual FRRO officials had been made. These were duly looked into. Whereas 2 complaints were found to be without any substance, appropriate departmental action was taken against the erring officials in the third case.

Criminal Offences in U.P.

5925. SHRI CHINTAMANWANAGA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether criminal offences increased during the President's Rule in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the figures of criminal offences during the President's Rule in Uttar Pradesh category-wise and year-wise; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to curb such offences by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Pollution Clearence Certificate

5926. SHRI AYYANNA PATRUDU : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether production in a number of plants in various industries has either stopped or gone down as a result of agitation by the Environmentalists;